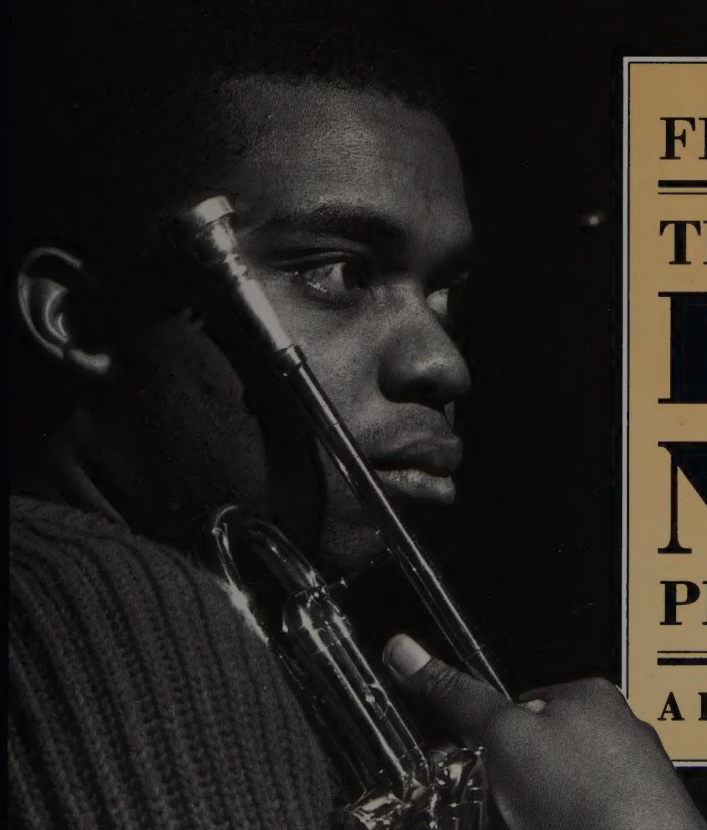




FRANCIS WOLFF

THE

BLUE

NOTE

PHOTOGRAPHS

A BOOK OF POSTCARDS

Francis Wolff
The Blue Note Photographs
A Book of Postcards

Pomegranate Artbooks • San Francisco

**Pomegranate Artbooks
Box 808022
Petaluma, CA 94975**

**ISBN 1-56640-021-X
Pomegranate Catalog No. A607**

**Pomegranate publishes books of postcards on a wide variety of subjects.
Please write to the publisher for more information.**

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**Designed by Allen Boyce Eddington
Printed in Korea**

Nobody has ever documented an era more lovingly, or more thoroughly, than Blue Note Records founders Alfred Lion and Francis (Frank) Wolff. The era that they chronicled: the inception and rise of bebop in America.

Lion's charge was the music. He recorded a staggering array of seminal jazz artists from 1939 through 1967. Wolff's contribution to history was more subtle but no less significant. Using a hand-held Leica or Rolleiflex camera, he, too, recorded every Blue Note artist for posterity. Yet Francis Wolff never considered himself an archivist. He took pictures simply because he loved doing it.

Even during the days of 78s in plain paper sleeves, before there appeared to be any use for his photographs, Wolff and his camera were an ubiquitous presence at every Blue Note session. Whether attempting to fade into the wallpaper or blatantly seeking out the perfect combination of light, angle and expression to capture an artist's spirit, Francis Wolff never missed an opportunity to indulge his two passions in life—music and photography.

With the dawning of the LP, new possibilities for graphic innovation arose, and three hundred of Francis Wolff's jazz photographs were artfully cropped, integrated with typography and given jazz immortality as Blue Note album covers. More than five thousand others went into a file drawer, not to see the light of day until twenty years after Wolff's death.

With Wolff's passing in 1971, his entire collection of priceless photographs went to his Blue Note partner and childhood friend, Alfred Lion. For years, Lion could not bear to go near them. It was only when Lion formed a warm friendship with the principals of Mosaic Records that anyone outside of the original Blue Note family became aware that this treasure trove of Francis Wolff photographs still existed.

Mosaic Records has set aside the photographs most appropriate for use in its continuing program of Blue Note reissues. Aside from the album reissues and Mosaic Records brochures, this book of postcards marks the first appearance of a selection of Francis Wolff Blue Note photographs in twenty-five years.



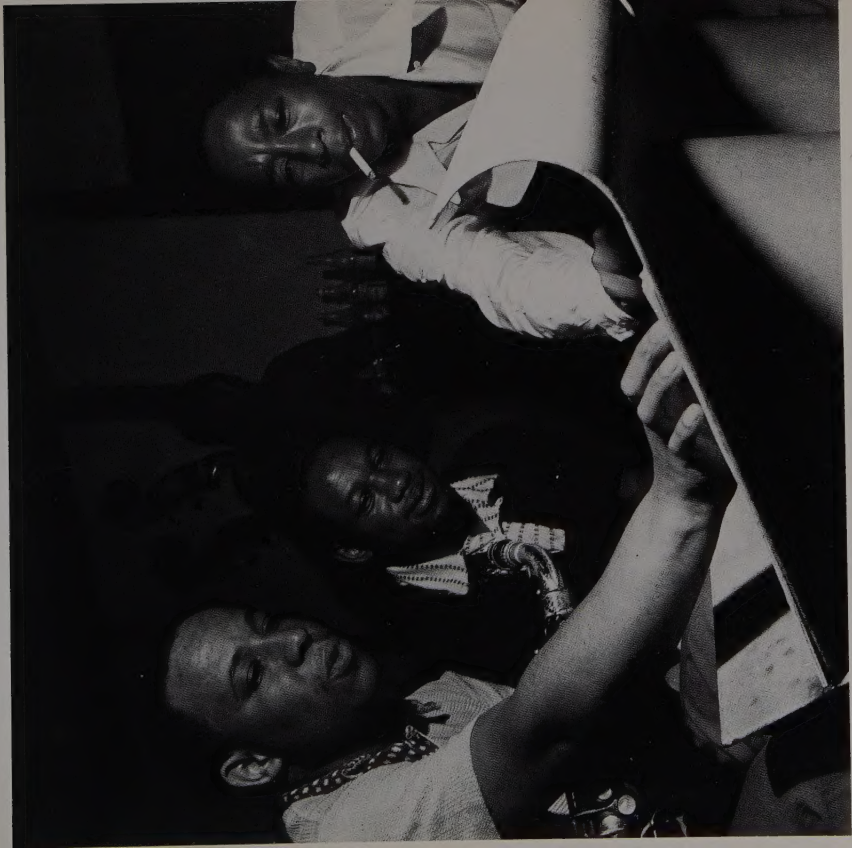
Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Sam Rivers

Andrew Hill's *Involution* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, March 7, 1966

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Lou Donaldson, Clifford Brown and Elmo Hope

Donaldson-Brown Quintet session

WOR Studios, New York City, June 9, 1953

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Sonny Clark

Leapin' & Lopin' session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, November 13, 1961

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Kenny Drew

Undercurrent session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, December 11, 1960

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Grant Green

Rejected session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, November 26, 1960

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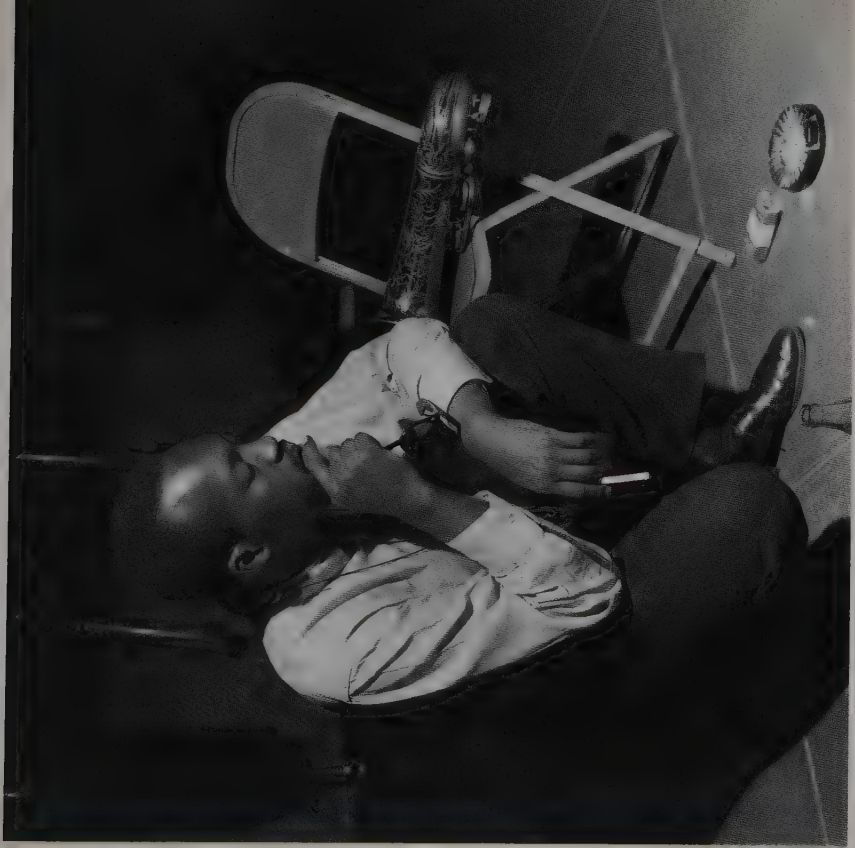
Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Lee Morgan

Johnny Griffin's *A Blowing Session*

Hackensack, New Jersey, April 6, 1957

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Hank Mobley

Donald Byrd's *Byrd in Flight* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, January 17, 1960

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Thad Jones

The Magnificent Thad Jones session

Hackensack, New Jersey, February 2, 1957

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Andrew Hill

Involution session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, March 7, 1966

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Elvin Jones

Grant Green's *Talkin' About* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, September 11, 1964

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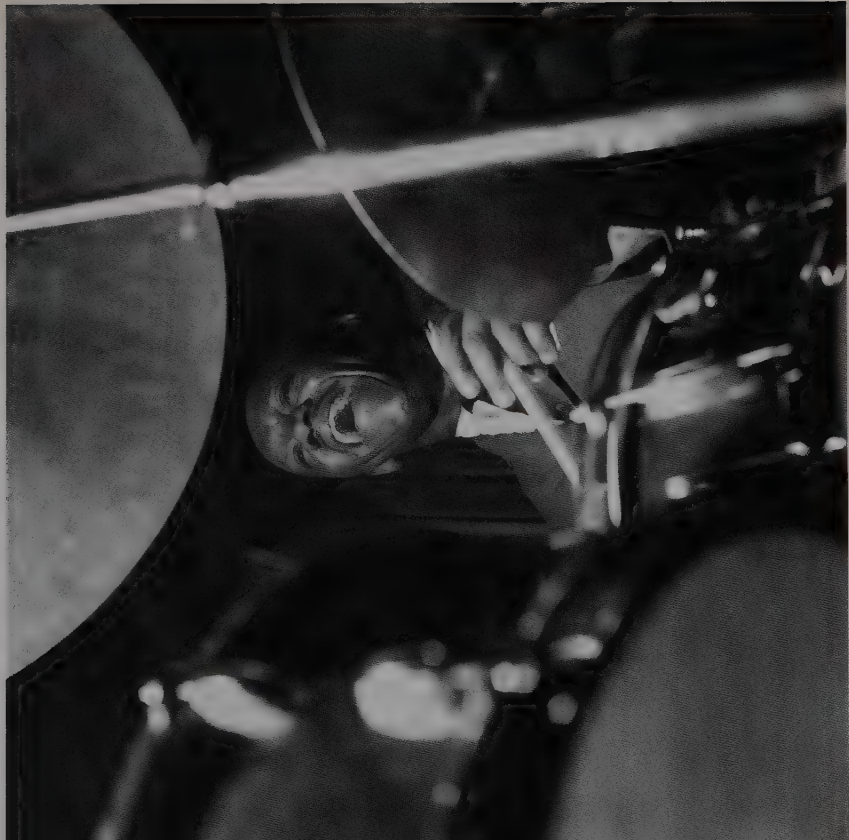
Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Freddie Hubbard

Hank Mobley's *The Turnaround!* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, February 5, 1965

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Art Blakey

The Big Beat session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, March 6, 1960

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Sonny Rollins

Sonny Rollins Volume II session

Hackensack, New Jersey, April 14, 1957

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Herbie Hancock

Wayne Shorter's *Speak No Evil* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, December 24, 1964

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Joe Henderson

Mode for Joe session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, January 27, 1966

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

George Benson

Lou Donaldson's *Alligator Bogaloo* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, April 7, 1967

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Philly Joe Jones

Kenny Dorham's *Whistle Stop* session

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Ron Carter

Joe Henderson's *Mode for Joe* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, January 27, 1966

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Ornette Coleman

The Empty Foxhole session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, September 9, 1966

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Sam Jones

Grant Green's *Oleo* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, January 31, 1962

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Blue Mitchell and Chick Corea

Blue Mitchell's *The Thing to Do* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, July 30, 1964

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Joe Henderson and Bobby Hutcherson

Grant Green's *Idle Moments* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey

November 4 or November 15, 1963

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Bud Powell

The Scene Changes session

Hackensack, New Jersey, December 29, 1958

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Paul Chambers

Sonny Rollins Volume II session

Hackensack, New Jersey, April 14, 1957

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Eric Dolphy

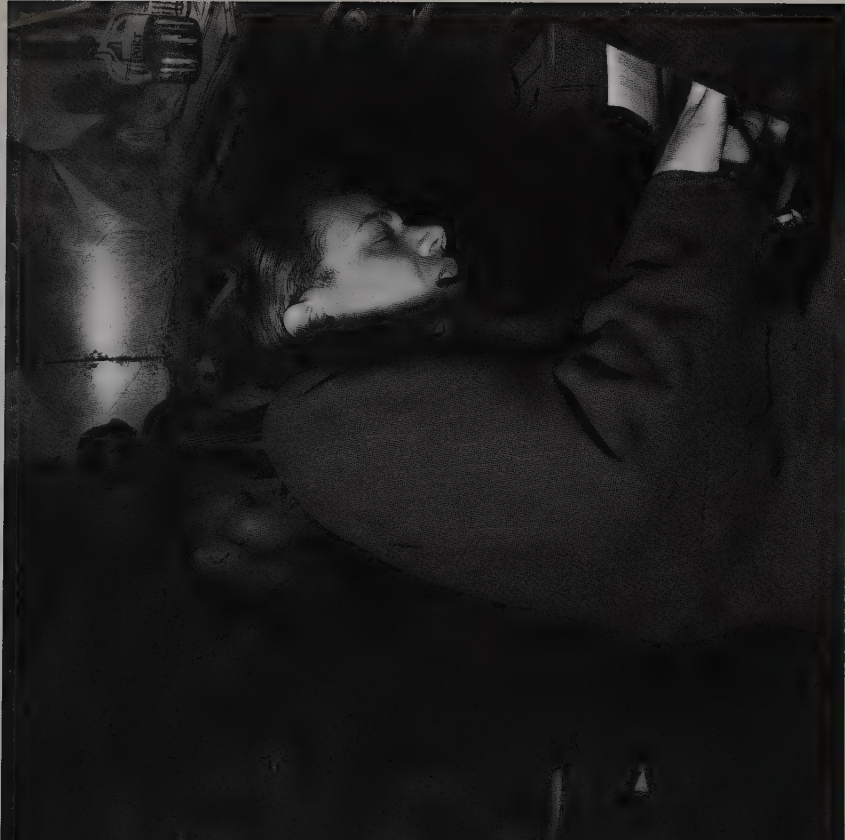
Out to Lunch session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, February 25, 1964

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Percy Heath and Horace Silver

In performance

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Don Cherry, Henry Grimes

Complete Communion session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, December 24, 1965

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Kenny Clarke, Milt Jackson, Percy Heath and John Lewis

In performance

New York City, April 1952

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Curtis Fuller

Art Blakey's *Buhaina's Delight* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, December 18, 1961

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Francis Wolff, The Blue Note Photographs

Junior Cook

Blue Mitchell's *Boss Horn* session

Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, November 17, 1966

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**Included are 30 detachable
postcard reproductions of
Francis Wolff photographs
taken during Blue Note
recording sessions between
1952 and 1967.**



ISBN 1-56640-021-X



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Includes 30 oversized postcards
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